



Solid Waste Division

TO: Staff

Date: 03/01/06

FROM: Joleen Wofford

RE: _____ Notice of Change in Service
 X Notice of Change in Procedure
 _____ Notice of Temporary Change in Procedure

Effective Date: March 1, 2006

Subject: Frequently asked questions for the Contamination and
 Container in View programs.

Please try to handle questions and inquiries from these customers. Questions you cannot handle can be referred to first: Joleen Wofford at ext. 1879 or Dannye Casey at ext. 1889.

Contamination Questions:

Question: ***What is recyclable in a Residential Blue Cart?***

Answer: Recyclables include: All paper (cardboard, newspaper, office paper, telephone books, magazines, any type of paper), all plastics, all metals, all beverage containers, all glass containers, all aluminum or steel cans, metal cans, and all un-painted wood scrap cut to 3 ft. lengths or less.

Non-recyclables include: Fiberglass, food waste, liquids, oils (solid or liquid), **Styrofoam**, rubber hoses, charcoal, ashes, leaves, tree pruning, yard waste, computer scrap, monitors, TVs, electronics, tires, toxic materials, hazardous waste containers, pesticide containers, clothing, furniture, carpet, oil containers, painted or pressure treated lumber, and any other non-recyclables.

Size Restriction: Materials can be rejected if too large to reasonably fit into the top hatch of the front loader. Generally, material should be less than 3 feet in length.

Question: ***What is recyclable in a Residential Green Waste Cart?***

Answer: Acceptable items include: All green waste, such as leaves, yard waste, weeds, grass clippings, and tree pruning scraps cut to 3 ft. lengths or less.

Non-acceptable items include: Plastic bags, trash, painted or pressure treated lumber, trash and all recyclable items acceptable in blue cart.

Size Restriction: Materials can be rejected if too large to reasonably fit into the collection vehicle. Generally, material should be less than 3 feet in length.

Question: What does “Contamination” mean?

Contamination means any non-recyclable items in the blue recycle carts contaminate the contents of the blue cart. Any items that are not acceptable in the green waste cart contaminate the contents of green waste cart.

Question: Why is the City concerned about contamination?

The City spends approximately \$500,000 annually to remove contamination found in recycling carts. Items such as diapers, shoes, or food waste are considered contamination when placed in the blue recycling cart. Contamination is also a problem in green carts. For example, when people put leaves and such in plastic bags prior to disposal, these bags must be removed by hand before the material can be processed. Plastics and trash of any kind can contaminate the green waste material.

Question: How early can I set out my carts at the curb?

Containers shall be placed for collection before 5:30 A.M. of the collection day, but not before 6:00 P.M. of the preceding day.

Question: When do I need to remove them from the curb?

The containers shall be placed out of view no later than 8:00 P.M. of the collection day.

Question: What is meant by “Out of View”?

No container shall be stored in the front yard or on a street, unless the container is screened from view of the street.

Question: Why is the city concerned about my carts being in view?

Carts left out on non-service days not only create an unsightly appearance in our neighborhoods, but they can be a safety hazard as well.

Question: What if my side gate is too narrow for my carts to roll through?

Refer to the Container in View and Contamination staff.

Question: What screening can I provide if I want to store my carts in the front yard?

Refer to the Container in View and Contamination staff.